

Date Mailed
December 22, 2000

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Wisconsin Power and Light Company for
Authority to Construct and Place in Service a New 138 kV
Transmission Line Between Its Existing McCue and Sunrise
Substations, and to Construct a New Substation, Known as
the Wilcox Substation, All Located in Janesville, Rock
County

6680-CE-161

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING
AND INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT
OF COSTS AND HEARING**

Direct Testimony Due:	Tuesday, February 6, 2001 – Noon
Hearing Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2001– 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Hearing Location:	Holiday Inn Express (Janesville Conference Center), 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville, WI 53546

THIS IS A PROCEEDING to consider the application, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 196.49 and 196.491, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 111 and 112, of Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WP&L) for authority to construct and place in service a new 138 kV transmission line between its existing McCue and Sunrise Substations, and to construct a new substation, known as the Wilcox Substation (proposed project).

Members of the public may review copies of WP&L's application at the following locations:

- Hedberg Public Library and Arrowhead Library System.
- Office of the clerk of the town of Janesville.
- Office of the clerk of the town of Harmony.
- Office of the clerk of the town of LaPraire.
- Office of the clerk of the city of Janesville.
- Office of the clerk of Rock County.
- Public Service Commission.

This is a Class 1 contested case proceeding, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a). The Commission may approve, approve with modifications, or reject the application.

Project Need

WP&L asserts in its application that the reason it seeks to build the proposed project is to improve the reliability of the local electric system in the greater Janesville area.

Project Location

The location of the proposed project is in the towns of Janesville, Harmony and LaPrairie, Rock County. The substation would be located near the intersection of Wilcox and Harmony Town Hall Roads. There are four alternative 138 kV transmission line routes being considered. If the project is approved, the Commission will select a substation location and one route for the transmission line.

A map attached to this Notice indicates the general location of the proposed substation and specifies the locations of the transmission line route options.

Environmental Review

This is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2). An environmental assessment will be prepared to determine if the preparation of an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. A preliminary determination regarding the need for an environmental impact statement will be issued before the public hearing.

Persons wishing to express concerns or contribute information for use in the environmental assessment should submit comments to Kathleen Zuelsdorff, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707. Persons may contact her at (608) 266-2730, or at zuelsk@psc.state.wi.us. In order to be considered in the preparation of the environmental assessment, comments must be received by January 12, 2001.

Project Schedule

If the Commission approves, or approves with modifications, the application, WP&L plans to begin construction in June 2002, and complete construction and place the facilities in service by June 2003.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2001, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in Holiday Inn Express (Janesville Conference Center), 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville, Wisconsin. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs. Parking for people with disabilities is available. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

This hearing is open to all members of the public, whether or not they are parties named in this proceeding. Owners of property on or close to the proposed project or any other persons who have an interest or concern about the facilities or route should consider testifying, or at least attending, the hearing.

Any person desiring to become a party shall file a request pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(2m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.32(3) no later than 14 days from the date of this notice. The request shall be addressed to Administrative Law Judge Jeffry J. Patzke, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854. It is not necessary to be a party in order to testify.

Parties shall file an **original and 20 copies** of direct and rebuttal testimony and exhibits with the Commission and shall provide a copy to other parties. Direct testimony is due in hand by noon on Tuesday, February 6, 2001. A filing with the Commission may be made by facsimile for direct and rebuttal testimony, but the document filed by facsimile cannot exceed 20 pages. In addition, facsimile filings are due 24 hours earlier than the identified due date to allow time for copying. The cover sheets of a facsimile filing must include the docket number, state "Official Filing," and the number of pages. Copies of testimony should also be available at the hearing.

The pre-filed testimony of WP&L and Commission staff witnesses will be available approximately two weeks prior to the hearing. Copies may be obtained in advance by calling Mohammed M. Monawer of the Commission staff at (608) 267-7778 or e-mail monawm@psc.state.wi.us.

The Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

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Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Mohammed Monawer at (608) 267-7778.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

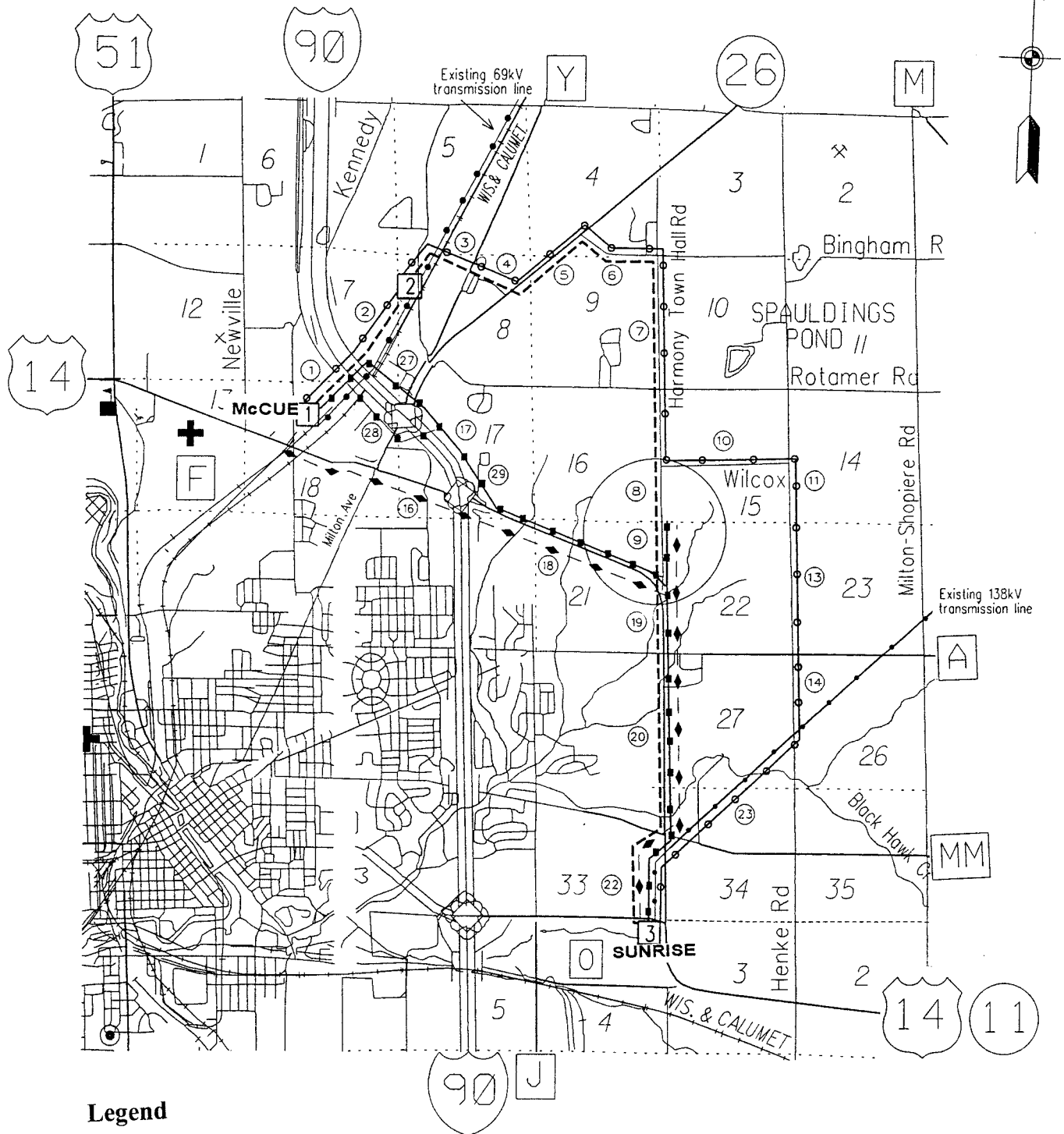
By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

LLD:MMM:bap:g:\notice\pending\6680-CE-161 Hearing.doc

Attachment

PSC Docket 6680-CE-161
WP&L's Wilcox Substation & 138 kV Transmission Line Project



Legend

- Existing transmission lines
- Route A
- Route B
- ◆---◆---◆---◆--- Route C
- Route D